

CAPITOL HILL UPDATE

REP. JIM GERLACH (PA-06)

Friday, May 20, 2005

www.gerlach.house.gov

Homeland Security Dollars Appropriated

WASHINGTON -- The House of Representatives passed the first spending measure of the year this week when it adopted the nearly \$31 billion 2006 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. The legislation provides the funding for the Department of Homeland Security which includes millions for cargo screening initiatives, immigration enforcement and general security



enhancements and upgrades to US interests at home and abroad.

“We need to make sure that our nation’s first line of defense, the new Department of Homeland Security, has the resources necessary to protect our homeland, secure our borders and ensure the safety and general well-being of our fellow

Interior Appropriations Bill funds 6th District Projects

WASHINGTON -- Late Thursday, the House of Representatives passed by a wide-bipartisan majority the FY '06 Interior Appropriations Bill. The more than \$26 billion spending package, that passed the House by a vote of 329 to 89, also includes \$500,000 for the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor.

Since arriving in Congress, Rep. Jim Gerlach has helped to secure nearly \$2 million for the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor in the last four Interior appropriations bills.

“The Schuylkill River heritage corridor is an invaluable recreation and economic resource for the region,” Rep. Gerlach said. “The money in the appropriations bill will allow for the further development and expansion of the areas surrounding the river which communities throughout the 6th District are building hiking trails, educational centers and environmental retreats.”



*Legislative Day at the
Chester County Adult Day
Care*



Congressman Gerlach used his recent visit to the Chester County Adult Day Care Center as an opportunity to discuss several important legislative issues with the seniors.



In addition to the U.S. Department of the Interior, the legislation funds the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities, the National Parks

Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Bureau of Land Management and many of the programs for American Indians.

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Coatesville students visiting Washington



CAPITOL UPDATE/ TV SCHEDULE

Be sure to catch Congressman Jim Gerlach's cable television show, *Capitol Update*.

Lower Merion Channel 7: M/W/F
-- 12:30 AM, 8:30 AM, 8:30 PM and
12:30 PM on T/TH/SAT/SUN.

PCTV Channel 54: SATs at 8:30 PM

BCTV (Berks County): Check listings

"We were committed to getting significant funding in this legislation to further or transportation enforcement efforts," Rep. Gerlach said. "Also, we've provided millions of dollars for researching and developing of next generation technologies that can help protect our great nation."

velop, test, and evaluate the use of an anti-missile devices on commercial aircraft; \$699 million to enhance the Federal Air Marshal program, including \$10 million to implement advanced air-to-ground communications.

Furthermore, this Congress remains committed to making air passenger travel as



Homeland Appropriations

citizens," Congressman Jim Gerlach said. "The War on Terror will be won by those who stand tall, stand strong and stand equipped to battle the enemy on the homeland or take the battle overseas. This legislation gives the Department of Homeland Security the economic support it needs to fight this battle successfully."

The legislation provides billions to support new technology to screen cargo ships and airplanes entering the United States; expand cargo inspection efforts at foreign ports; and enhance immigration enforcement efforts

throughout the country. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Congress and the President have made a significant commitment to funding the nation's first responders by providing more than \$32 billion for training and equipment purchases. This appropriations bill continues that commitment by providing \$3.6 billion for first-responders. Additionally, the Homeland Security Appropriations legislation reconfigures the first-responder grant process to make sure funding is prioritized to get to the most high-risk states and municipalities first.

The FY'06 Homeland Security Appropriations bill also provides nearly \$7 billion to continue efforts to improve aviation security. This funding includes: \$3.6 billion for screening efforts, including \$75 million to install in-line explosive detection systems, and \$170 million to procure additional systems and next generation technologies; \$110 million to research, de-

safe as ever. Since September 11th, only "known shippers" that meet certain security requirements are allowed to ship goods on passenger aircraft. The Transportation Security Administration continues to prohibit all cargo from unknown shippers aboard passenger air carriers.

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